

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AS-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 EB-07 COME-00 FEAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02

AID-05 /067 W

-----101296 081446Z /43

R 080928Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4024

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPPRE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, TH, ID

SUBJECT: SUHARTO VISIT TO THAILAND

1. INDONESIA PRESIDENT SUHARTO ACCOMPANIED BY 32-MAN DELEGATION PAID UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO THAILAND JULY 4-5. SUHARTO MET TWICE WITH PRIME MINISTER THANIN AND ATTENDED AUDIENCE WITH THE KING AND DINNER HOSTED BY HIS MAJESTY ON JULY 4. WHILE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS WERE MEETING, FOREIGN MINISTERS MALIK AND UPPADIT HELD SEPARATE TALKS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF INDONESIAN PARTY, WHICH INCLUDED TRADE MINISTER PRAWIRO, STATE SECRETARY GENERAL SUDHARMONO AND DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS ARIFIN, MET WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS. ON JULY 5 SUHARTO RECEIVED CALLS FROM DEFENSE MINISTER SA-NGAT AND DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDER KRIANGSAK. SA-NGAT TOLD PRESS THAT INDONESIANS HAD AGREED TO JOINT NAVAL OPERATIONS, TO TAKE PLACE IN INDONESIAN WATERS IN AUGUST. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, RTG WILL SEND THREE SHIPS FOR JOINT EXERCISE.

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2. JOINT PRESS STATEMENT RELEASED UPON SUHARTO DEPARTURE SAID THAT THANIN AND SUHARTO HAD DISCUSSED LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN ASEAN IN PREPARATION FOR NEXT MONTH'S SUMMIT MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR. THE PRESS STATEMENT ALSO SAID THAT THE TWO LEADERS WELCOMED MEETINGS WITH AUSTRALIA, JAPAN AND NEW ZEALAND, TO BE HELD FOLLOWING THE ASEAN SUMMIT, AND NOTED THAT THE FREQUENCY OF HIGH LEVEL CON-

SULTATIONS AMONG LEADERS OF THE ASEAN COUNTRIES REFLECTS THEIR DESIRE TO KEEP EACH OTHER INFORMED AS WELL AS STRENGTHEN THE COHESIVENESS OF ASEA.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER UPPADIT TOLD THE PRESS JULY 5 THAT ECONOMIC COOPERATION WAS STRESSED DURING THE MEETING BETWEEN THE THAI AND INDONESIAN DELEGATIONS. THE DELEGATIONS HEARD A REPORT OF THE ASEAN ECONOMIC MINISTERS CONFERENCE WHICH HAD BEEN HELD IN SINGAPORE IN JUNE AND FURTHER DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM OF DISCRIMINATORY TRADE POLICIES OF CERTAIN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE AFFECTED FOREIGN TRADE WITH ASEAN MEMBERS. UPPADIT SAID THAT STEPS TO CORRECT DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN, BUT COULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC AT THAT STAGE.

4. PRESS ALSO REPORTED LEADERS HAD AGREED THAT BILATERAL ECONOMIC TIES WOULD BE STRENGTHENED BY INCREASED SALES OF THAI RICE TO INDONESIA AND INDONESIAN FERTILIZER TO THAILAND. INDONESIA ALSO REPORTEDLY AGREED TO ATTEMPT TO GIVE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO THAI FOR PURCHASE OF INDONESIAN OIL.

5. INDONESIAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF THAT TALKS HAD CENTERED AROUND REGIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND BILATERAL SECURITY CONCERNS. THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD AGREED TO IMPROVE EXCHANGES OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND AN INDONESIAN MILITARY UNIT WILL BE SENT TO THAILAND IN THE NEAR FUTURE AS PART OF AGREEMENT TO INCREASE MILITARY TRAINING EXCHANGES. SOURCE SAID INDONESIANS FELT VISIT HAD BEEN USEFUL AS PART OF CONTINUING DIALOGUE AMONG ASEAN LEADERS. SOURCE HAD NOT YET SEEN REPORTS BEING PREPARED ON CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THANIN AND SUHARTO, AND EMBOFF WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NEXT WEEK.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO15002
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770243-0290
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770780/aaaacqzf.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0df4146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1929944
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUHARTO VISIT TO THAILAND
TAGS: PDIP, TH, ID, (SUHARTO, GEN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0df4146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009